SENATE BILL 1433

By Marrero B

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 8, Chapter 27, relative to group insurance for public officers and employees.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 8-27-201, is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated subsection:

()

- (1) Upon the service retirement of a state employee who retires pursuant to title 8, chapter 36, part 2 on or after January 1, 2008, the state employee may elect to retain the state employees' health group insurance beyond the age the employee becomes eligible for Medicare benefits. At the time of the election the state employee shall pay a monthly premium according to the schedule of premium specified in § 8-27-205(b)(1) for group insurance for retired state employees.
- (2) If the retired state employee had made the election to retain the state employees' health group insurance as provided in subdivision (1), the surviving spouse or dependent children of a deceased, retired state employee may elect to continue participating in the state employees' health group insurance plan by continuing to pay the monthly contribution attributable to the deceased, retired state employee so long as the state employee had not discontinued the election.
- (3) The election once made shall continue until discontinued by the state employee and if discontinued, the provisions of this subsection shall no longer apply to such person or such person's spouse or dependent children. Provided that, if the election is discontinued, the retired employee or the surviving spouse of the retired

employee shall be eligible to participate in the supplemental medical insurance for retirees as provided in title 8, chapter 27, chapter 7.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring

it.

- 2 - 00144831